



General Assembly

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Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development

Resumed third session

15-19 October 2001

Agenda item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development

Fourth report of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee

1. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Financing for Development has continued its work of carrying out the responsibilities given to it by the Preparatory Committee and the General Assembly. The Assembly, in its resolution 55/245 B, requested the Bureau to prepare proposals for the consideration and decision of the Preparatory Committee, at its third resumed session, on the specific format and rules of procedure of the Conference as well as possible round tables or other suitable arrangements for the various segments of the Conference. The Preparatory Committee requested the Bureau to identify selected topics for "technical notes" to be prepared by the Financing for Development Coordinating secretariat as further inputs for consideration by the Preparatory Committee.

2. At the Bureau's first meeting following the third session of the Preparatory Committee, the Bureau established an open-ended Bureau task force on the format and rules of procedure of the Conference under the Chair of Ms. Jana Simonová, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations.

3. The Bureau also requested Mr. Hazem Fahmy, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Egypt to the

United Nations, to facilitate Bureau consideration of the identification of themes for the technical notes. The Bureau requested the Financing for Development Coordinating secretariat to prepare 10 technical notes in time for the resumed third session of the Preparatory Committee (see note by the Secretary-General (A/AC.257/27 and Add.1-10)).

4. In addition, the Bureau in conjunction with the Financing for Development Coordinating secretariat has continued to receive reports on the activities of the various stakeholder groups.

5. The Bureau met on 2 October 2001 with the Bureau of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, and participated by videoconference on 3 October 2001 with the Trade and Development Board of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

6. The Bureau has received requests from 2 intergovernmental organizations, namely, the Asian Development Bank and the Common Fund for Commodities, for accreditation as intergovernmental organizations to the financing for development process; from 20 non-governmental organizations for accreditation as non-governmental organizations to



the financing for development process (A/AC.257/10/Add.4); and from 8 business sector organizations for accreditation as business sector participants to the financing for development process (A/AC.257/30). It recommends favourable action by the Preparatory Committee with respect to these requests.

7. The Bureau considered in detail the outcome of the Bureau task force on format and rules of procedure and extended its full support to the format and rules of procedure for the International Conference for Financing for Development, contained in the present report and its addendum.

8. The three major institutional stakeholders have actively participated in the Preparatory Committee financing for development process and we encourage their continued participation. The Bureau will continue its consultations with the three institutions. The ongoing inter-secretariat cooperation will also continue. In this regard, the Bureau proposes that, after the approval of the Conference format by the Preparatory Committee, the major institutional stakeholders be invited to participate in the International Conference on Financing for Development in accordance with the modalities suggested in the agreed Conference format. The response of each institution to the invitation will constitute the final agreement on their modality of participation in the Conference.

9. In this report, the Bureau also provides information to the Preparatory Committee about major related events that are planned in conjunction with the Conference.

I. Format of the Conference

10. As previously decided, the Conference will be divided into three segments: a high-level official segment, a ministerial segment and a summit segment. The Conference will be composed of 7 plenary meetings and 12 interactive round tables. There will be five plenary meetings at the summit segment, one plenary meeting at the ministerial segment and one plenary meeting at the high-level official segment. The broad structure of each segment of the Conference will be as follows:

(a) The high-level official segment will consist of a plenary meeting on the morning of Monday, 18

March 2002. The Deputy Ministers of Finance, Trade and Foreign Affairs of the host country will jointly assume Co-Presidency of the high-level official segment. This segment will elect the General Committee of the Conference; consider the report by the Co-Chairs of the Preparatory Committee; adopt the "Monterrey Consensus" draft(s) for ministerial consideration; receive reports from other relevant processes; and hear statements by regional commissions and regional development banks;

(b) The ministerial segment will commence on the afternoon of Monday, 18 March, and take up the whole of Tuesday, 19 March, and Wednesday, 20 March 2002. The Ministers of Finance, Trade and Foreign Affairs of the host country will assume Co-Presidency of the ministerial segment. The plenary meeting on Monday afternoon will adopt the Monterrey Consensus draft(s) for summit consideration; hear statements on behalf of intergovernmental economic, financial, monetary and trade bodies; hear statements by United Nations bodies; and receive the report(s) from the financing for development business forum(s) and civil society forum(s) (for further information on these forums, see paras. 22 and 23 below). On Tuesday and Wednesday, there would be eight multi-stakeholder round tables. Each morning and afternoon will have two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables;

(c) The summit segment would commence on the morning of Thursday, 21 March, and take up the remainder of the Conference, until end of business on Friday, 22 March 2002. On Thursday morning, there would be a plenary meeting that will begin with the assumption of the Presidency of the Conference by the Head of State of the host country. The President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, and the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Trade Organization will be invited to make introductory statements. Statements by heads of delegations will start on Thursday morning, and continue at plenary meetings on Thursday afternoon, Thursday evening, Friday morning and Friday afternoon. The list of speakers will be established by drawing of lots, in accordance with the customary protocol that ensures that Heads of State or Government speak first, followed by Ministers and other heads of delegation. On Friday morning and afternoon, there will also be two simultaneous multi-stakeholder round tables in each meeting. These will run concurrently with the plenary;

(d) After the completion of the statements by heads of delegations and round tables on the afternoon of Friday, 22 March 2002, there would be a closing meeting where the final document(s) will be adopted, followed by closing remarks by the head of delegation of the host country and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

11. The theme of the summit round tables on Friday, 22 March 2002, would be "The International Conference for Financing for Development: looking ahead". The themes of the ministerial round-table meetings will be subject to further consultations and will be decided by the Preparatory Committee at its January 2002 session.

12. Each round table will comprise a maximum of 70 seats with the participation of government delegations and those referred to in paragraph 14 below (48), and representatives of the United Nations and major and other institutional stakeholders (8), accredited civil society entities (7) and accredited business sector entities (7).

13. Each regional group will determine which of its members will participate in each round table, ensuring that equitable geographical distribution will be maintained, and allowing for the principle of precedence to be applied in the composition of the summit round tables. Each government delegation will participate in one round table on each of the three round-table days. For each round table the maximum number of participants from each regional group will be as follows:

- (a) African States: 14 Member States;
- (b) Asian States: 14 Member States;
- (c) Eastern European States: 6 Member States;
- (d) Latin American and Caribbean States: 9 Member States;
- (e) Western European and other States: 8 Member States.

14. Member States that are not members of any of the regional groups may participate in round tables. The Holy See and Switzerland, in their capacity as observer States, and Palestine, in its capacity as observer, may also participate in round tables.

15. The Secretary-General, and the heads of major institutional stakeholders and other relevant

institutional stakeholders, are invited, in consultations with Co-Chairpersons of the Bureau, to designate their representatives to the round tables at appropriate senior level by 20 February 2002, allowing for some flexibility.

16. Organizers of the civil society forum(s) are invited, in consultation with the Co-Chairpersons of the Bureau and the Financing for Development Coordinating secretariat, to make a selection among accredited civil society participants and to communicate the names of their representatives to round tables at appropriate senior level by 20 February 2002, allowing for some flexibility.

17. Organizers of the business sector forum(s) are invited, in consultation with the Co-Chairpersons of the Bureau and the Financing for Development Coordinating secretariat, to make a selection among accredited business sector participants and to communicate the names of their representatives to round tables at appropriate senior level by 20 February 2002, allowing for some flexibility.

18. The four round tables at the summit level will be co-chaired by two Co-Chairpersons each, with five Co-Chairpersons representing each regional group; the heads of the three major institutional stakeholders, the World Bank, IMF and the World Trade Organization, will be invited as Co-Chairs. The eight ministerial round tables will be co-chaired by 10 ministers, representing equally each regional group; the 6 heads of other institutional stakeholders — the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Inter-American Development Bank — will be invited as Co-Chairs.

19. Each participant at a round table may be accompanied by two advisers.

20. Accredited delegates and observers will be able to follow the proceedings of the round tables via closed-circuit television in the overflow room.

21. Summaries of deliberations of the round tables will be presented in written form by the Chairpersons of the round tables at the end of the Conference.

II. Other information related to the Conference

22. During Monday, 18 March 2002, there will be an International Business Forum that will take place separately from the official proceedings of the Conference. The main business sector interlocutors for the financing for development process, in particular the International Chamber of Commerce, the World Economic Forum and the Business Council for the United Nations, are organizing this forum.

23. There will also be a Civil Society Forum, organized by the Organizing Committee for the NGO Forum. The Organizing Committee anticipates meeting during the week of the resumed third session of the Preparatory Committee to finalize details of the Civil Society Forum.

24. The Department of Public Information of the United Nations Secretariat will be facilitating press conferences which are expected to take place as follows:

(a) On the evening of Monday, 18 March 2002: a press conference on the Conference agenda by the Co-Presidents of the ministerial segment, by representatives of the regional commissions and of the regional development banks;

(b) On the evening of Tuesday, 19 March 2002: press conferences by representatives of civil society and the business sector;

(c) On the evening of Wednesday, 20 March 2002: a press conference by the Co-Presidents of the ministerial segment;

(d) On the evening of Thursday, 21 March 2002: a press conference by the major institutional stakeholders — the United Nations, the World Bank, IMF and the World Trade Organization;

(e) On the evening of Friday, 22 March 2002, a final press conference by the President of the Conference, accompanied by other heads of State or Government.

25. The host country may organize a "retreat" for Heads of State or Government on Friday, 22 March 2002.

26. The Conference facilities will be provided for unfinished intergovernmental negotiations, regional and other groupings and bilateral meetings. There will

also be flexible available facilities for bilateral and multilateral consultations over breakfasts, lunches and dinners.

III. Recommendations

27. The Bureau recommends that the Preparatory Committee accredit in their appropriate category the organizations cited in paragraph 6 above.

28. The Bureau also recommends that the Preparatory Committee approve the format for the International Conference on Financing for Development as described in paragraphs 10 to 21 above.

29. The Bureau further recommends that the Preparatory Committee adopt the draft rules of procedure for the International Conference on Financing for Development as contained in the addendum to this report.